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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/486,021	05/19/2000	HEINER BECKER	BECKER-5	2641

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

KUHNS, ALLAN R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1732	11

DATE MAILED: 06/24/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/486,021

Applicant(s)

BECKER

Examiner

KUHN

Group Art Unit

1732

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

THREE (3)

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE (3) MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- This action is FINAL.
- Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- Claim(s) 1 AND 3 - 28 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- Claim(s) 1 AND 3 - 28 is/are rejected.
- Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.
- The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).
- All Some* None of the:
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received
in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892 Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948 Other _____

Office Action Summary

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1. Claims 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a sensor to ascertain when a particular plasticized material reaches the location on the wall surface where the sensor is located, does not reasonably provide enablement for any other sensor. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 3-11 and 15-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirota. Hirota discloses the basic claimed process of injection molding parts from plasticized material including injecting a first plasticized material into the hollow of an injection mold through an opening so as to contact only a partial area of a wall surface of the hollow, and subsequently injecting a second plasticized material through the same opening into the hollow so as to contact at least a part of the remaining area of the wall surface of the hollow. Hirota appears not to say that the areas contacted are "wet" but such is well known and would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in order that the plasticized material conforms to the shape of the mold cavity.

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The first material extends to a shoulder or ridge in Hirota, as in claim 3, and Hirota teaches the movement of a gate or valve portion (83,84) to clear a remaining flow area, as in claims 4-6. Hirota also teaches the formation of gas space or pockets, as in claims 7 and 10, and suggests hard and soft materials, as in claim 8, through the forming of formed and non-foamed portions. Forming portions of different colors, as in claim 9, is well known and would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in order to add visual effects. Hirota illustrates one component containing pockets of another component, as in claim 11. Hirota also illustrates the use of multiple extruders, an injection unit and first and second channels, as in claims 15-27. Use of control units is also well known and would have been obvious in order to maintain product quality. The opening of Hirota is formed in a nozzle of an extruder operatively connected to an injection mold, as in claim 28.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allan Kuhns whose telephone number is (703) 308-3462. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jan Silbaugh, can be reached on (703) 308-3829. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-7718.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

Allan R. Kuhns
ALLAN R. KUHNS
PRIMARY EXAMINER AU 1732
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